

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application.

LISTING OF THE CLAIMS

1-39. (Canceled)

40. (Currently Amended) A media distribution apparatus that selectively distributes views comprising original media of content and a preview summarizing the content, the media distribution apparatus comprising:

a storer that stores the views of original media of content, and first metadata for explaining the views, the first metadata comprising a plurality of segments and describing at least one set of viewpoint information and priority of the viewpoint information, and time information, the at least one set of the viewpoint information and the priority of the viewpoint information, and the time information being assigned on a segment-by-segment basis, the viewpoint information comprising a keyword included in the first metadata for explaining the content;

a request receiver that receives, ~~from a client,~~ a preview distribution request from a client terminal, the distribution request including identification information that identifies the content, at least one set of the viewpoint information comprising the keyword included in the first metadata for explaining the content and the priority of the viewpoint information, information that indicates one of a media distribution request and a preview distribution request, and desired time information that is input by the client terminal, the identification information and the at least one set of the viewpoint information and the priority of the viewpoint information being selected from list information that is distributed in advance, the list information comprising the

identification information of the content, a set of the viewpoint information and the priority of the viewpoint information of the content assigned to each segment making up the first metadata, and playback time information of the content;

a request analyzer that determines whether the distribution request received by the request receiver is the media distribution request or the preview distribution request for the content;

a media extractor/generator that, when the received distribution request is determined to be the preview distribution request, extracts, after the preview distribution request is received by the request receiver, from the first metadata, a plurality of segments for making up the a preview ~~that is a summary~~ and adapted to the at least one set of the viewpoint information and the priority of the viewpoint information included in the received preview distribution request with respect to content corresponding to the identification information included in the received preview distribution request, and dynamically generates the preview having a time length corresponding to the desired time information included in the received preview distribution request, by fixing a plurality of segments as second metadata so as to have the time length corresponding to the desired time information, using the time information assigned to the extracted plurality of segments, and combining the views stored in the storer corresponding to ~~at least one of~~ the extracted plurality of segments fixed as the second metadata ~~so as to have the time length corresponding to the desired time information~~, using the time information assigned to the extracted plurality of segments; and

a media transmitter that transmits the generated preview to the client terminal.

41. (Currently Amended) The media distribution apparatus according to claim 40, wherein a plurality of sets of the viewpoint information and priority of the viewpoint information, both assigned on a segment-by-segment basis, are assigned to the first metadata and described continuously.

42. (Previously Presented) The media distribution apparatus according to claim 40, further comprising a charger that does not charge for the preview or charges according to a length of the generated preview.

43. (Currently Amended) A media distribution method for selectively distributing views comprising original media of content and a preview summarizing the content, the media distribution method comprising:

storing ~~the views of original media of content~~, and first metadata for explaining the views, the first metadata comprising a plurality of segments and describing at least one set of viewpoint information and a priority of the viewpoint information, and time information, the at least one set of viewpoint information and the priority of the viewpoint information, and the time information being assigned on a segment-by-segment basis, the viewpoint information comprising a keyword included in the first metadata for explaining the content;

~~receiving, from a client, a preview distribution request~~ from a client terminal, the distribution request including identification information that identifies the content, at least one set of the viewpoint information comprising the keyword included in the first metadata for explaining the content and the priority of the viewpoint information, information that indicates one of a media distribution request and a preview distribution

request, and desired time information that is input by the client terminal, the identification information and the at least one set of the viewpoint information and the priority of the viewpoint information being selected from list information that is distributed in advance, the list information comprising the identification information of the content, a set of the viewpoint information and the priority of the viewpoint information of the content assigned to each segment making up the first metadata, and playback time information of the content;

determining whether the distribution request received from the client terminal is the media distribution request or the preview distribution request for the content;

when the distribution request received from the client terminal is determined to be the preview distribution request, extracting, ~~after the preview distribution request is received by the request receiver~~, from the first metadata, a plurality of segments making up the a preview ~~that is a summary~~ and adapted to the at least one set of the viewpoint information and the priority of the viewpoint information included in the received preview distribution request with respect to content corresponding to the identification information included in the received preview distribution request, and dynamically generating the preview having a time length corresponding to the desired time information included in the received preview distribution request, by fixing a plurality of segments as second metadata so as to have the time length corresponding to the desired time information, using the time information assigned to the extracted plurality of segments, and combining the views stored in the storer corresponding to ~~at least one of the extracted plurality of segments~~ fixed as the second metadata so as to have the time length corresponding to the desired time information, using the time information assigned to the extracted plurality of segments; and

transmitting the generated preview to the client terminal.

44. (Currently Amended) The media distribution method according to claim 43, wherein a plurality of sets of the viewpoint information and priority of the viewpoint information, both assigned on a segment-by-segment basis, are assigned to the first metadata and described continuously.

45. (Previously Presented) The media distribution method according to claim 43, further comprising not charging for the generated preview or charging according to a length of the generated preview.

46. (Previously Presented) The media distribution apparatus according to claim 40, wherein viewpoint options are displayed to a user prior to generating the preview.

47. (Previously Presented) The media distribution method according to claim 43, further comprising displaying viewpoint options to a user prior to generating the preview.

48. (Cancelled).

49. (Previously Presented) The media distribution apparatus according to claim 40, wherein the storer stores a plurality of metadata for a content.

50. (Previously Presented) The media distribution apparatus according to claim 40, wherein the generated preview is cached according to a frequency of access to a corresponding content.

51. (Cancelled)

52. (Previously Presented) The media distribution method according to claim 43, wherein a plurality of metadata are stored for a content.

53. (Previously Presented) The media distribution method according to claim 43, further comprising caching the generated preview according to a frequency of access to a corresponding content.

54. (Currently Amended) A media distribution apparatus that selectively distributes views comprising original media of content and a preview summarizing the content, the media distribution apparatus comprising:

a server that includes the views of original media content and first metadata for explaining the views, the first metadata comprising a plurality of segments, each segment comprising at least one set of viewpoint information and priority of the viewpoint information, and time information, the viewpoint information being a keyword included in the metadata that explains the views;

wherein the server receives, from a client terminal, a preview distribution request comprising content identification information, at least one set of keyword and priority of the keyword, information indicating a media distribution request or a preview distribution

request, and a time period set by the client terminal for the a preview to be generated by the server,

wherein the content identification information and the at least one set of keyword and priority of the keyword are selected by the client terminal from list information distributed in advance, and

wherein the list information comprises the content identification information, a set of keyword and priority of the keyword assigned to each segment making up the first metadata, and content playback time.

wherein the sever determines whether the received distribution request is the media distribution request or the preview distribution request, and

wherein the server, when the received distribution request is determined to be the preview distribution request, extracts, after receiving the preview distribution request, from the first metadata, segments having a set of viewpoint information and priority of the viewpoint information corresponding to the at least one set of keyword and priority of the keyword selected by the client terminal, generates the preview having the set time period by fixing a plurality of segments as second metadata using the time information and linking the views corresponding to at least one of the extracted segments fixed as the second metadata using the time information, and transmits the generated preview to the client terminal.